

THE HOME, ITS PROBLEMS AND ITS INTERESTS



FOR THE SCHOOL GIRL.

A medium shade of dark green silienne fashions this smart shirt waist suit, one which presents many attractive features for school wear. The back follows the fitted lines of a well-setting bodice, while the fronts are arranged after a shirt waist pattern with broad plaits. The deep square collar over the shoulder is a separate affair, and is trimmed with rows of heavy machine stitching and a bias fold of black velvet. The sleeves the regulation shirt pattern, the fullness laid in stitched plaits at the wrist, and an upflaring cuff is trimmed with a velvet fold, en suite with the collar. The skirt is a nine-gored affair, each gore having two backward turning pleats stitched down to the knee and then well pressed from there. The skirt length is to be shoe tops, and the shoe pictured represents the latest mode, a shiny black vamp, with a dark cloth upper.

SHADING ELECTRIC LIGHTS TO SUIT EYES AND COMPLEXION

Yellow, Pink, and Rose Tinted Shades Give a Cheerful, Subdued Glow and Tone Down the Surroundings.

Brilliant interior illuminations that are the result of using showy and elaborate globes on electric lights are no longer considered good taste, and women who pride themselves on having artistic homes are selecting neutral and subdued shades for shielding the glare of the trying white light in an effort to get becoming and restful tones.

Few women will be subjected to an awful greenish glare, a purple hue or even pale blue rays this season, for careful housekeepers realize the advantage of having a soft shade of light to give a desirable tone to the surroundings, as well as to make the most of their personal appearance, and for this reason delicate shades of yellow, pink, and rose will be found ingeniously twisted around almost all the electric light bulbs in an apartment, particularly in the dining room, where a glaring or trying light frequently causes untold discomfort to the nerves of guests, besides making them look unreal and often ghastly.

This strong light will be toned down by a ground glass of silk shield that has recently been invented. Those made of glass are screwed to the fixtures beneath the light and usually fit inside the globe. They really add to the appearance, because being glazed glass the inside view of the framework is shut out.

Those made of sheer silk are round, or of whatever shape will fit the bottom of the globe. They should be fitted to a fine wire frame that can easily be fastened to the fixture, and the globe is put on smooth so that while the light is softened it is not dim.

It is not alone through the selection of globes that effective lighting is secured, for much depends on the position of fixtures, especially for really artistic results. The rule of successful lighting is to have all lights balanced; that is, the rays must come from as nearly opposite directions as is possible, so that they will meet, instead of having most of them on one side of a room or if on different walls so far apart that they do not meet. This plan varies, of course, according to the needs in each apartment.

For instance, in a dining room the arrangement of the lights is entirely different from that used to advantage in a hall, parlor, bedroom, etc. To have all the light concentrated on the table, leaving the rest of the apartment in subdued shadow, is readily accomplished by placing the lights directly above or right on the table. Candelabra dropped from the ceiling are also sufficiently high not to interfere with the placing of floral decorations in the center. The glare from these lights is softened, before it falls on the white linen, sparkling cut glass, and shining silverware, by placing a shield of glass or thin silk beneath the bulbs, and around the edges of the globe. It should be of light yellow, pale pink or red if the desire is to get a becoming light. The bulbs should be placed at either side of a mantel or in the center of the mirror if it is desirable. To balance with these, others should be put at the sides of a door that is most nearly opposite, and at another door leading into the dining-room, hall, or library.



The Real Love Letters of a Real Woman

XXVII.

My Dearest:

I was up with the lark this morning, and now for a pen-and-ink chat with you until breakfast. In the first place, wherever you are and whatever you are doing, a merry good-morning to you. I do hope the day will be a very pleasant one and that no cloud will pass over you to obstruct the sunshine from your brow. A thousand more good things I am wishing you, dearest, but only one for myself and that is that I could be in your arms as of old. It is an old adage, "The more we have the more we want," but that would not be true of me if I could only have you.

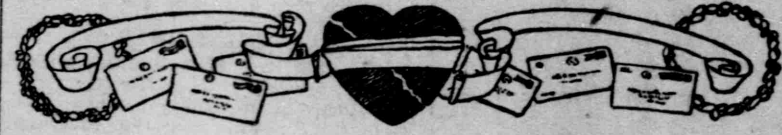
My first waking thoughts are always of you, and so are the last ones that submerge into sweet dreams. Yet with all our wishing and longing the days of our youth are fast flying and there is still that impenetrable wall between us. How little we thought, four or five years ago that you would now be drifting like a ship without a rudder, and I teaching young minds how to take aim?

There are fifty-four children in my room, and sometimes I look into their innocent faces and wonder if any one of them will ever experience in love what you and I have. I don't know why I hope not, for if I could be taken back to childhood, heart whole and fancy free, and could see the two ways plainly before me, the one I have traveled and the other in which I should never know you, I should choose the former. "Tis better to have loved and lost than never to have loved at all." I truly believe that, for love is the real irrigation of life; it enriches it more than all else. The little twinkling star, though it be entirely beyond his reach, often guides the mariner to his haven of rest. Love often guides a life to its broadest and richest sphere, though it be over a rough and stormy path. "He that loveth not, knoweth not God, for God is love."

Cupid has led us over all sorts of pitfalls, but we have always come to solid ground with a deeper and stronger love than ever before. I like to read the story of the sweet Evangeline—her early love that made her life a benediction upon all with whom she came in contact. I sometimes wonder if my love for you, which I know is as sincere as that of Evangeline, has made me, or ever will make me, of any use to the world. If my life is valueless in itself, it shall not be when combined with yours. One shall serve as leaven to the other, and only good can spring from hearts so filled with love and contentment.

Love is a noun, both common and proper; not very singular, and agrees with you and me. Do you remember as much as that of your old district school grammar? One of my earliest ambitions was to get into that class of big boys and girls that recited the last thing at night in the old Ker's grammar. But those days of childhood fancy are past, and my ambition now is wholly for you.

More love than I can measure or weigh.



BACHELOR APARTMENTS WITH TINY KITCHENS ARE ECONOMICAL

Small Suites Suited to Light Housekeeping for Young Couples—Economy in Living.

"Bachelor apartments" now are almost without exception being built with tiny little rooms they are, and a New England housekeeper would hold up her hands in amazement, but just the same the third room in the apartment answers precisely the purpose for which it was made—to make it possible to do "light housekeeping."

Women, and men, too, who have lived in two rooms and a bath, or one room and a bath, know what it means to yearn for a place in which to get one's own breakfast, boil eggs, and make a pot of coffee. In spite of the disadvantages of combining bathroom and kitchen many have done it, and a nursery refrigerator perched on the end of the bath to drip into the tub was by no means uncommon, if not appetizing.

Kitchenettes have changed all that. Although small they contain a gas range, a sink with hot and cold water, a cupboard, and a refrigerator. It makes one think of playing house, and that is precisely what they have led to. Young married people, living on limited incomes, are swooping down on these "bachelor" apartments, and appropriating them for their own use. They make the cost of living much less. No servant is required for the daily work is not heavy, and a woman in once a week to clean thoroughly is enough. She can also do the washing in the one set tub, and the cost of laundry drops. While the clothes are drying she sweeps, wipes up floors, and rubs silver, and by the time that is done the clothes are ready to iron. There are not so many that they cannot be finished during the afternoon, and the problem of how to keep clean is solved.

Her Holiday. This is a holiday for the young mistress of the apartment, for she has some one working for her, but the other days she finds her mornings busy. Even light housekeeping takes time, and dust must be gathered up, beds made and the place tidied. If she is an economical soul the chances are that she finds frequent use for the tub in the kitchen in which she washes handkerchiefs, socks, and stockings. A folding small clothes rack takes little room and is immensely useful, and a flatiron heats in a few

moments on the gas range. It is so domestic, and so simple that it is more like playing a grown up game.

The trouble is that a girl is too apt to make it too simple. She likes to putter around, but by noon she begins to be a little tired, or she wishes to go out, and unless she is very careful she grows lax about her food. Her luncheon is apt to have alone in her own domicile, and she doesn't wish to bother. Of course, breakfast is had at home, otherwise half the purpose of the kitchen would be wasted; sometimes, not often, for it means too much work. Dinner is cooked at home. But at both meals the husband is present, and there is no stinting of food to save bother. But when a woman is alone it is frequently a different matter, and therein is a mistake.

"Tinned housekeeping," as some one once called it, is all right once in a long while, but potted beef and canned corn beef hash should not be indulged in often. They are easy to mix, but not nourishing.

Bachelor Women.

Bachelor women who can afford one of these apartments are far more likely to eat irregularly than a married woman, who, because of the presence of her husband, is certain to have two good meals a day. But these little kitchens are going to play havoc with working women if they are not careful. Such an apartment costs a trifle more than a studio, but is taken because the kitchen makes it possible for a woman to "get all her own meals."

And such meals! Coffee and rolls, with possibly eggs for breakfast. That is all right, but the trouble begins at luncheon. She is in such a hurry to get back to work that she will give little time to it, and a cup of tea, some bread, and something out of a can suffice for her palate. She does not realize when she takes up work again that she is drawing on the resources of her system without having properly stoked the fire that keeps the engine running.

Cleaning Woodwork.

Careless people sometimes disfigure woodwork by scratching matches almost anywhere, says the Brooklyn Citizen. To remove these marks, apply lemon juice, rubbing hard—and then use soap and water. Finger marks on polished surfaces may be taken off by rubbing with a flannel dipped in turpentine.

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A LITTLE CASHMERE FROCK.

In the rush and tumult of the world of fashion the little maid comes in for her just share of attention and each season the designs for her frocks are more and more attractive. Our cut illustrates a delightful suggestion in pale blue cashmere and the little chemisette of the surplice bodice is of the daintiest lingerie. Persian embroidery in the pale shades forms the decoration on skirt and blouse and several rows of shirring accentuates the shoulder lines. The soft grille is made of crepe radium in same shade as material.

Gas Stoves Need Care.

Gas stoves are almost as common nowadays in the kitchen as ranges. One secret of success in using them comes from keeping the stoves in perfect order. They must be kept clean, and free from rust and grease. The grease may be washed off with soap and water, while the polishing will prevent rusting, says the Brooklyn Citizen.

After a vacation, when the cooking stove may not have been in use, one is liable to find it rusted, unless prevention was taken early in the summer. Kerosene, carefully used, will remove the rust, but the stove must not be lighted until the oil has thoroughly evaporated. About once a week the burners should be lifted out, turned upside down and tapped to knock out dust or soot. Clean out the burners further with a hairpin or hairpin.

Whitening Kitchen Floors.

Unless the kitchen floor is badly in need of scrubbing, the boards can be nicely whitened by a less laborious process which entails no work on one's knees. Delicate women obliged to do their own work should try it. Into half a bucketful of lukewarm water put three or four tablespoonfuls of liquid ammonia. Swab the floor with this, using a long-handled mop. Allow it to remain on the boards two or three minutes, then rinse mop, wring out rather dry, and go over the floor carefully again, says the Brooklyn Times. A self-wringing mop is the best, as the ammonia is caustic and injurious to the hands. If you can't secure a patent article, hold the mop under the spigot each time before wringing it, and when the work is done wash your hands well, rubbing them with cucumber jelly.

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1 dozen Cut Green Rhine Wines.....	12.00 dozen	3.00 dozen
Fine Imported Cut and Engraved Red Claret or Rock Glasses.....	24.00 dozen	9.00 dozen
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Imported Cut and Engraved Water Bottle.....	18.00 dozen	7.50 each
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